

Patent
098719-100001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
DIMMER, Jerry R. et al.)
Serial No.: 10/731,898)
Confirmation No.: 4701)
Filed: December 9, 2003)
For: COVER SYSTEM FOR TRUCK)
BOX)

)
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 3677

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby disclose to the Patent Office patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, that they believe may be material to the patentability of one or more of the pending claims in this application, and with respect to which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as "First Class Mail" in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

June 18, 2004

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LAI-2097695v1

Carolyn L. Evans
Name of Person Mailing Paper
Carolyn L. Evans
Signature of Person Mailing Paper

The items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and the submission thereof by Applicants shall not be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or considered to be material (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC 102 with respect to this invention, unless specifically designated by Applicants as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, exists.

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, listing the patents, publications and other information that may be material to the patentability of one or more claims of the subject application. Copies of all of the listed items are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience and consideration. Applicants respectfully request that a copy of the attached Forms, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

Item 21 listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08B comprises eight color photographs of a portion of a cover fastening system. The fastening system shown in these photographs is believed to be a product of Lund Industries, Incorporated of Anoka, Minnesota.

The photos include three views of a channel, two views of the channel with a piece received in the channel, and three views of the piece without the channel. A sample of this device is available for the Examiner's inspection upon request. The earliest date this device was placed on sale, sold or became known to the public is unknown, but it is believed to be early enough to be considered prior art to the subject matter of this application.

Applicants believe that no fee should be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Should Applicants be in error, however, please charge any fee required for the consideration of this paper to counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2468.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES DAY

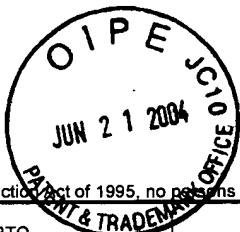
By: 

David A. Randall
Reg. No. 37,217

Dated: June 18, 2004

555 West Fifth Street, Suite 4600
Los Angeles, California 90013-1025
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Enclosures: Form PTO/SB/08A, Form PTO/SB/08B, cited references.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/731,898
Filing Date	December 9, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jerry R. Dimmer
Art Unit	3677
Examiner Name	Unknown

Attorney Docket Number 098719-100001

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
1	US- 2003/0197394 A1		10-23-2003	Dimmer	
2	US- 6,568,740 B1		05-27-2003	Dimmer	
3	US- 6,543,835 B2		04-08-2002	Schmeichel, et al.	
4	US- 6,431,634 B1		08-13-2002	Ananian	
5	US- 2002/0096268 A1		07-25-2002	Schmeichel, et al.	
6	US- 2002/0093216 A1		07-18-2002	Ananian	
7	US- 6,322,129 B2		11-27-2001	Huotari	
8	US- 6,293,608 B1		09-25-2001	Dicke, et al.	
9	US- 6,257,647 B1		07-10-2001	Ninnes, et al.	
10	US- 6,234,561 B1		05-22-2001	Huotari	
11	US- 5,906,407		05-25-1999	Schmeichel	
12	US- 5,788,315		08-04-1998	Tucker	
13	US- 5,365,994		11-22-1994	Wheatley, et al.	
14	US- 5,251,951		10-12-1993	Wheatley, et al.	
15	US- 5,174,353		12-29-1992	Schmeichel, et al.	
16	US- 5,076,338		12-31-1991	Schmeichel, et al.	
17	US- 4,991,640		02-12-1991	Verkindt, et al.	
18	US- 4,739,528		04-26-1988	Allen	
19	US- 4,036,521		07-19-1977	Clenet	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
Signature

Date
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/731,898
				Filing Date	December 9, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Jerry R. Dimmer
				Art Unit	3677
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	098719-100001

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
	20	VELCRO USA INC., Product Information Guide for "Soft Hardware Fasteners" (2 pages), December 1999, United States		
	21	Photographs (8 total) of fastening system by Land Industries, Inc.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
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